

## Treasurer's Report

1. There was a surplus of £5,005 for year ended 31 August 2023, which is what we expected as our new offer, involving hot lunches and extended hours, has been very attractive. Our enhanced daynurseries subscription has been vital in reaching out to many more parents. We would be completely full all of the time if we offered holiday provision. To some extent there is a mismatch between offering longer hours but not holiday cover.
2. There is a strong balance sheet and healthy reserves, including £22k redundancy reserve required to meet our statutory obligations for our long-serving staff.
3. Rent was increased to £7.50 per hour from September 2022, and has increased again to £8 per hour from this September.
4. Funding from the council broadly increases by maybe 2% a year while our costs increase at a greater rate (particularly imposed pay rate rises through NMW). Our ability to increase our income is severely limited by government funding.
5. The forthcoming changes in April 2024 (when most 2 year olds will qualify for funding of 15 hours per week) should help fill our places and but the level of funding will determine how hard it is for us to break even.
6. The Administrator spends a lot of time helping parents to negotiate various government childcare schemes including 30 hours, and tax-free childcare, plus interactions with the Universal Credit system. We also distribute food vouchers to qualifying children every school holiday.
7. Audit of August 2023 accounts is scheduled for January 2024.
8. Clean audit report for 2022. Final accounts submitted to Charity Commission by June along with the annual return/trustee's report.
9. Currently the budget for year ended August 2024 anticipates a deficit of just under £5k. This may be worse due to inadequate SEN funding.